Newton Aug. 3. 1837.

Rev. James Bates.

PHELPS MSS.

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Mr. Phelps,

Dear Sir, I received your letter on Saturday last, "asking whether we were willing to grant the use of our meeting house for two evenings," to an Agent of the Abolition Society to lecture in. I laid your request before the five men in this Parish, whose duty it is to say whether the meeting house shall be used for any purpose but religious worship on the Sabbath. A majority of this committee are opposed to granting your Agent the use of our house. I should have written sooner, had I been able to have obtained the answer of our committee before this day

Yours aff'y James Bates